11-21-03



Dkt. No. 3600/255

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Gérard Hascoët and Thierry Pechoux

Serial No.:

10/603,587

Filed:

June 25, 2003

For:

A DEVICE FOR PROTECTING A COVER, THE USE OF A DEVICE FOR PROTECTING A COVER, A METHOD OF FITTING A COVER ON A PROBE, AND A METHOD OF MAKING A DEVICE FOR

PROTECTING A COVER

Art Unit:

3736

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 22, 2003 NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

"Express Mail" mailing label no. EV 330816100 US_ Date of Deposit: November 20, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria Wa 22313-1450.

Alexandria va 22313-1450

Signature

This reply is submitted in response to a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application issued on September 22, 2003 in connection with the subject application. A copy of the Notice is attached hereto. A reply to the Notice is due November 22, 2003. Accordingly, this reply is being timely filed.

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Information Disclosure Statement

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the references that are listed on Form PTO/SB/08A (1 page) attached hereto. A copy of reference U.S. Patent No. 6,605,034 B2 is also attached hereto. All of the remaining references listed on the attached Form were previously submitted to or cited by the Patent Office during the prosecution of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/552,516 or U.S. Patent Application No. 10/021,626, from which the subject application claims the benefit of its filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of previously cited or submitted references are not included with this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants are submitting the subject Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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CONCLUSIONS

A check for \$900.00 is enclosed to cover the following fees: (1) \$770.00 basic filing fee and (2) \$130.00 surcharge for a late filing fee.

No additional fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Communication and Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any other fee is required to preserve the pendency of the subject application, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN LLP Attorneys for Applicants 90 Park Avenue New York, New York 10016

(212) 336-8000

Dated: New York, New York

November 20, 2003

By: Craig J. Arnold, Reg. No. 34,287

Alan D. Miller, Reg. No. 42,889



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO 10,603,587 **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE June 25, 2003 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Gerard Hascoet Not yet assigned Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name Not yet assigned 3600/255 Attorney Docket Number Sheet

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials	1 .	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear					
	1	us- 3,703,892	12-09-1970	Meyers						
	2	us. 4,241,828	12-30-1980	Bourdelle et al.						
	3	us- 4,823,949	04-25-1989	Bala						
	4	us- 5,259,383	11-09-1993	Holstein et al.						
	5	us- 5,325,846	07-05-1994	Szabo						
	6	us- 5,406,939	04-18-1995	Bala						
	7	us- 5,614,660	03-25-1997	Tanaka						
	8	us- 5,765,682	06-16-1998	Bley et al.						
	9	us- 5,969,223	10-19-1999	Nagai et al.						
	10	us- 6,350,232 B1	02-26-2002	Hascoet et al.						
	11	us- 6,605,034 B2	08-12-2003	Hascoet et al.						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6					
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.